

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner : Zachary C. Tucker
Group Art Unit : 1624
Applicants : Roger D. Tung et al.
Application No. : 10/607,716 Confirmation No. : 7621
Filed : June 27, 2003
For : INHIBITORS OF SERINE PROTEASES,
PARTICULARLY HEPATITIS C VIRUS NS3
PROTEASE

Palo Alto, California 94301
December 11, 2006

Mail Stop Amendment
Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the August 9, 2006 Restriction Requirement in the above-identified application. Applicants submit concurrently herewith a Petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) and authorization to charge the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (a)(3) to extend the time for filing this reply for three months, up to and including December 11, 2006 (December 9 being a Saturday). Accordingly, this reply is timely filed.

REMARKS begin on page 2 of this paper.